

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 274

By Tracy

A RESOLUTION to recognize the Falcon Engineering and Robotics Team #547 at Lincoln County High School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pause in their deliberations to recognize those students who, through their natural talents and unflagging commitment to academic and creative excellence, have distinguished themselves both in the classroom and in their community; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy group of individuals is the Falcon Engineering and Robotics Team #547 at Lincoln County High School (LCHS) in Fayetteville, which will be competing at the FIRST Robotics Rocket City Regional Competition in Huntsville, Alabama, on March 23-25, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Falcon Engineering and Robotics Team #547 is to unite students, mentors, engineers, and community members by creating a space wherein creativity and STEM can interact; students learn to take on challenges and see their work through to its completion, gaining knowledge that will be beneficial in the future; and

WHEREAS, recognizing that robotics is for all students, the Falcon Engineering and Robotics Team #547 was formed in 2001 and strives to give students the opportunity to prove their capabilities individually while working on a team; and

WHEREAS, Team #547 currently has thirty-one team members, most of whom are freshman and sophomore students, and the team's membership is about twenty-five percent female; under the leadership of Coach Marty LeBlanc and Assistant Coach Brandy Smith, the number of team members has risen significantly in the last year; and

WHEREAS, Team Captain Taylor Mickey, a senior at LCHS, and Team Co-Captain Cameron Howell, an LCHS junior, have led the team in preparations for this year's competition season; the team began meeting immediately after last year's competition and holds training sessions every other week. Team #547 is also assisted by ten mentors, two of whom are previous team members; and

WHEREAS, the Falcon Engineering and Robotics Team #547 has submitted its name for the Chairman's Award for the first time in more than five years; the Chairman's Award is the highest honor given at the FIRST Championship to FIRST Robotics Competition Teams, recognizing the team that best represents a model for other teams to emulate and best embodies the purpose and goals of FIRST; and

WHEREAS, in preparation for the competition season, Team #547 formed a marketing team that has raised more than \$8,000 this year, and the team is active on social media; and

WHEREAS, the Falcon Engineering and Robotics Team #547's noteworthy achievements are a tremendous source of pride for their families, their school, and this State; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Falcon Engineering and Robotics Team #547 epitomize the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of true Tennesseans, as their dedication to excellence is clearly deserving of the respect, admiration, and commendation of this legislative body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we recognize the Falcon Engineering and Robotics Team #547 at Lincoln County High School and extend to the team's members our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.